

A Sinful Relation Written by Assala Shamsi

Chapter 1 : A Petition for Marriage

Once upon a time, in a small village, there lived a spiritual healer named Khadeejah. She used to heal people spiritually with her knowledge and prayers. She claimed that she often saw Allah and His Messenger in her dreams, and based on these visions, she would solve people's problems by consulting her spirits.

Khadeejah's sister, Soda, also assisted her at the shrine. Besides Soda, Khadeejah had a brother named Baari, and the three of them lived together. They had a stepsister named Hajra who lived a little distance away with her husband.

Khadeejah, being the eldest, managed her responsibilities with great diligence according to her principles.

On that particular day, Khadeejah was listening to the problems of the villagers at the shrine when her brother Baari arrived.

"Brother, why did you go through the trouble? You could have talked to her at home," Soda said, trying to stop him.

"No, Soda, move aside. Khadeejah listens to everyone's grievances here. Who will solve our problems?" Baari replied.

"Today, I will ask Sister why she is not arranging my marriage with Memoona. How long will I remain single?" Baari expressed his frustration.

"Sister, Baari is here," Soda whispered in Khadeejah's ear.

"Why has he come here? Tell him we will talk at home," Khadeejah replied.

"I told him, but he is insisting," Soda explained.

"Alright, send him in," Khadeejah permitted.

Baari entered, bypassing the line of petitioners, and approached Khadeejah.

"O Peerni (spiritual leader), today I am here not as a brother but as a petitioner. Please tell me the solution to my problem," Baari pleaded.

"Alright, tell me what your problem is," Khadeejah replied calmly.

"My plea is that I am of marriageable age, but my sister is not allowing me to marry. My fiancée Memoona has been waiting for me for four years. O servant of Allah, tell me what I should do to make my sister arrange my marriage and end my loneliness," Baari lamented.

"Wait," Khadeejah looked at Baari and said.

"If you have come to me as a petitioner, then let me tell you that this wait is not because of me but because the Prophet of both worlds advised me. O Baari, you are the only brother at home and the head of two sisters, which might be why Allah has not yet permitted you to bring home a bride. But be patient; the fruit of patience is sweet, so wait, as it is Allah's will," Khadeejah explained in detail.

Baari, scratching his nose, stood up. His face revealed his frustration with Khadeejah's words, but respecting the shrine, he left.

As soon as Baari stepped out of the shrine, he heard someone calling him from behind.

"Brother, Brother," Soda was calling him.

Seeing Soda, Baari stopped.

"I understand your pain," Soda said, coming closer.

"Please talk to Sister about my marriage," Baari pleaded again.

"Brother, you know Sister. She does not listen to anyone against her principles. But there is a plan if you are willing to cooperate," Soda said.

"What plan?" Baari asked, surprised.

"Khadeejah Sister is still waiting for an heir, a girl who will take over the shrine after her. Hajra, our stepsister, is six months pregnant and carrying a daughter," Soda informed.

"This is injustice," Baari said, getting angry.

"This is not the time to get angry but to use your wits," Soda explained to Baari.

"Alright, what is the plan?" Baari asked, agreeing.

"Hajra is coming to live with us until she delivers the baby. You need to prove before her delivery that Hajra is a wayward woman with many lovers. If Khadeejah Sister hears this, she will never make Hajra's daughter the heir to the shrine," Soda revealed the plan.

"Will this plan work?" Baari expressed his doubt.

"Everyone at home knows how close you were to Hajra before her marriage. This thought is in everyone's mind. You just need to make this thought a reality," Soda encouraged.

"Alright, let Hajra come, and then see what I do," Baari determinedly said.

After this conversation, Baari headed home while Soda went back inside the shrine and sat beside Khadeejah.

"Look at this, messages are coming from an unknown number again," Khadeejah said, handing her phone to Soda.

"This person calls herself Sania," Soda informed Khadeejah after reading the messages.

"Is she a petitioner? Ask about her problem," Khadeejah instructed.

"There is no problem, but her messages are quite romantic and touching. In some messages, she has expressed her feelings through poetry. It seems she has known you for a long time and has been observing you," Soda further informed Khadeejah after reading more messages.

Khadeejah looked at Soda in surprise, then silently took her phone back and placed it aside.

Chapter 2: The Heir to the Shrine

"Greetings to everyone," Hajra entered the house and offered her salutations.

"Peace be upon you, Hajra. What took you so long?" Khadeejah emerged from her room and asked.

"You know how Aqib drives so slowly, and it's my last month of pregnancy, so we're being extra careful," Hajra replied.

"Alright, but Aqib has become so slow ever since you two got married," Khadeejah said with a laugh.

Everyone laughed at Khadeejah's comment.

"Soda, move Hajra to the upstairs room and make sure she's comfortable," Khadeejah instructed Soda with a smile.

Nodding, Soda took Hajra's bag and started heading upstairs.

"Aqib, you go ahead upstairs. I'll come in a bit," Hajra told Aqib, sending him along with Soda.

"Sister, what happened with Baari? Did he get married?" Hajra asked Khadeejah after Aqib left.

"No, you know Memoona, who works at my shrine, got Baari engaged, but there's some risk involved with the marriage," Khadeejah explained.

"What kind of risk?" Hajra asked, puzzled.

"You know everyone in the area has their eyes on the shrine. The land's value is increasing, and it's possible that Memoona is marrying my brother because of the shrine. Even if that's not the case, other women might demand a second or third marriage with Baari after seeing the opportunity. Baari is naive and doesn't understand this game yet," Khadeejah summarized.

"So, does that mean Baari won't get married?" Hajra asked in surprise.

"Because of Baari's insistence, I got him engaged. Now it seems I'll have to get him married too. But before that, I want to secure the shrine," Khadeejah informed.

"And how will you secure the shrine?" Hajra inquired.

"When your daughter is born, our late mother's wish will be fulfilled, and the shrine will have an heir. That's why I'm eagerly waiting for your daughter," Khadeejah expressed her desire.

"Alright, sister, don't worry. Inshallah, the little peerni (spiritual leader) will be born soon," Hajra assured.

"Inshallah," Khadeejah responded.

Then, Hajra bade farewell to Khadeejah and went to her room.

"Hajra, Baari misses you a lot since you left," Soda remarked as she saw Hajra approaching her room.

Hajra fell silent for a moment upon hearing Soda's words.

"By the way, do you know the current value of the shrine?" Hajra asked, changing the topic.

"I'm not sure, but I heard Khadeejah talking about it being the most valuable property in the area," Soda replied.

"Alright, I'll set up my room first. We'll talk later," Hajra said, evading further questions from Soda, and quickly went to her room.

That evening, while Hajra was enjoying the weather on the terrace, a voice called from behind, "Are we so bad that you can't even meet us?"

"No, Baari, it's not like that. I wanted to meet you and discuss something important," Hajra hesitated.

"Have you forgotten those days when you couldn't spend a minute without me? And now you're waiting for me on the roof?" Baari sarcastically remarked.

"Look, Baari, that was childhood. Now I'm about to become a mother," Hajra tried to explain.

"You always said love has no relationship boundaries, and it can happen with anyone. So why are you getting tangled in these people's talks now?" Baari asked.

"Look, Baari, I have a husband. Whatever happened, you can consider it childhood naivety or ignorance. And even if I am your stepsister, don't do anything you'll regret later," Hajra warned Baari and started to leave.

As Hajra was leaving, Baari grabbed her hand, stopping her.

"Baari, let go of my hand. What are you doing? Someone might see us," Hajra said, panicking. Ignoring her, Baari pulled Hajra towards him and stared at her face.

"What's going on here?" Aqib arrived on the terrace and shouted angrily. As he got closer, he slapped Baari hard.

Baari couldn't bear the slap and stumbled to the ground.

Even after Baari fell, Aqib continued to shout and kicked him in the stomach.

Hajra tried to stop Aqib, but he was too angry.

At that moment, Soda also arrived.

"Agib, stop it!" Soda said in a commanding voice.

Aqib stopped.

"I'll take him to Khadeejah Peerni and tell her everything," Agib shouted in anger.

"Don't worry, leave it to me. This won't happen again. I'll go and inform Khadeejah. You two go to your room and rest," Soda assured Aqib, and then she took Baari away.

Fearing disgrace, Hajra and Aqib agreed with Soda and left the terrace.

Chapter 3: Intrigues and Schemes

"Soda was applying ointment to Baari's wound and said, 'You're such a fool, brother. I told you to defame her, not to get beaten up.'

Baari, with a tone of frustration, replied, 'Oh Soda, I didn't even realize when her husband came to the roof and started beating me.'

Soda admonished him, 'Who told you to hold Hajra's hand on the roof? Just be thankful I arrived in time, or who knows what would have happened.'

Baari, worried, asked, 'What do we do now?'

Soda explained, 'Listen, in two days Aqib has night duty. I overheard his company calling about it. That will be the right time. Hajra will be alone, and you can go to her room. I'll take a photo of you two, which will disgrace Hajra, and then Khadeejah Baaji will throw her out of the house.'

Baari agreed, 'Yes, that's a good plan. It will be easy with your help.'

Soda warned, 'Tonight, Memoona is coming to meet you. Keep it a secret; no one should find out she's here for you.'

Baari happily responded, 'You are the best sister in the world. I'll be ready tonight.'

After applying the ointment, Soda left.

Meanwhile, Aqib was quite upset with Hajra after the incident. 'How can I leave you here? I don't trust anyone.'

Hajra tried to calm him, 'Aqib, listen to me calmly. Baari is foolish, but you know why we're here and why I stayed quiet after his actions, right?'

Aqib remained silent, waiting for Hajra to explain. 'Khadeejah Peerni summoned us because she needs an heir for her shrine. That's why they are treating us so well. As for Baari, his feelings for me have been there since childhood. I'm just waiting for our daughter to be born so Khadeejah Baaji will give her the shrine.'

Aqib asked, 'But what will we do with the shrine? You hate these spiritual leaders. Will you do spiritual healing?'

Hajra replied, 'No, once Baaji names it after our daughter, we'll sell the shrine. You know how valuable that place is. We and our future generations will prosper.'

Seeing the excitement in Hajra's eyes, Aqib started to leave but Hajra stopped him. 'Just do one thing: until our daughter is born, don't do anything that could defame me. Khadeejah Baaji is very strict about this. If she even suspects that someone forced me or I'm involved in anything wrong, she will throw us out.'

Aqib reassured her, 'Okay, okay, I understand your plan. Don't worry, Baaji won't find out anything,' and he left.

When there were no visitors, Khadeejah would pass the time at the shrine. That day, she remembered some messages and started reading them on her phone. Each word was filled with spiritual and emotional depth. As she read, she became so engrossed that she lost track of time until she suddenly turned off her phone and held her head.

'Oh God, is this real? Can someone love me this deeply? Is this truly such profound emotion? Is this real?' Khadeejah muttered to herself.

Soda called from the threshold, 'It's 10 PM, Khadeejah Baaji. Shall we go home?'

Khadijah, stumbling, replied, 'Yes, I was just coming.'

As they walked together, Khadijah asked, 'Did you find out who's sending these messages to me?'

Soda briefly replied, 'No Baaji, the team is still investigating.'

Khadijah, emotional and angry, said, 'You can't even find out about a girl? What kind of people are you?'

Soda listened silently as they reached home. Khadijah went straight to her room. Upon entering, she saw a faint light and heard a soft sound that was soothing to her ears. She had never seen such a scene before. The unknown messages were still on her mind. The dim light was awakening her feelings. Suddenly, she noticed a slim girl standing near her bed. Khadijah, lost in the moment, reached out and grabbed the girl, trying to touch her inappropriately. Never before had Khadijah experienced such feelings, which was why she was so absorbed in those messages. She didn't even notice the door, and Baari was watching this moment.

Suddenly, the room light turned on. The girl in Khadijah's arms pushed her away and ran out crying. Khadijah saw her face – it was Memoona.

'Memoona,' Khadijah whispered, holding her head in her hands. Seeing Khadijah with Memoona made Baari's blood boil. He was about to attack Khadijah when Soda intervened, stopping him. Baari told Soda the whole story, but Soda tried to calm him down, although Baari's anger did not subside.

Chapter 4: Confession of Sin

"Use your anger as your strength and think with your mind. If you rebel against Baaji, we will get nothing. Have you forgotten our plan? Tonight is the perfect time to execute it. Hajra will be alone in her room at 9 PM. Her husband Aqib will be on night duty, so it's a good opportunity for you to quietly enter her room. Then I'll take pictures of both of you, which will disgrace Hajra and force Khadijah to remove her out of fear of her own disgrace. No one will be able to stop us from inheriting the shrine. Once we control the shrine, we can also remove Khadijah from here," Soda explained in detail to Baari.

Baari listened intently, nodding in agreement with Soda's plan.

Since the incident, Khadijah had been broken. She couldn't bring herself to leave her room, feeling deeply ashamed. As a result, she hadn't attended the shrine, and petitioners came to her home to inquire about her. However, Soda didn't let anyone meet Khadijah, claiming that she was unwell and would attend the shrine once she recovered.

"What should I tell the petitioners? They are very worried about you and come every day to check on you. What should I say?" Soda asked in a complaining tone.

"Tell them whatever you want, but I don't have the strength to face anyone right now. I feel like I want to hide from everyone. I am so afraid of what I will say to my Lord," Khadijah said in a despondent tone.

"What could have happened, Baaji? You follow all of Allah's commands and provide spiritual healing by His command. So what suddenly happened?" Soda asked, sitting beside Khadijah.

"I have committed a grave sin, Soda. I never thought this loneliness would be my greatest weakness," Khadijah said, her voice heavy with emotion.

"Baaji, why are you feeling lonely? Your own sister is with you. I stay with you all the time so that you don't have any complaints. And yet, if you still feel this way, it seems I am not capable enough to ease your loneliness," Soda said in a sorrowful tone.

"It's not that, Soda. You are a precious sister to me. You are the one person I can speak to without fear, but you know, the emotions our Lord has given us can become uncontrollable. No one can control these emotions, and they have brought me down," Khadijah said.

"Baaji, tell me clearly what happened. If you don't fear telling me anything, then why are you afraid to tell me what's troubling you?" Soda asked critically.

"Do you remember Sania, who used to message me? I never saw her, but I used to secretly read her messages every day. These messages affected me so much that I started seeing Sania in every girl. And one day, when Memoona was in my room, I thought she was Sania, the girl who sent me those loving messages, and I touched her inappropriately in a moment of passion. Now I can't face myself. I did this to my own brother's fiancée. If Memoona tells anyone, my honor is lost. What should I do?" Khadijah confessed regretfully.

"You made a mistake, but hiding won't solve the problem. You should face it and talk to Memoona," Soda advised.

"What should I say to Memoona?" Khadijah asked worriedly.

"You made the mistake, and you are ashamed of it. You know that if you ask for forgiveness sincerely, Allah will forgive you, so she, being a human, will also forgive you," Soda said.

"I don't think Memoona will forgive me. She works at the shrine, and I know her honor means everything to her. But if you think it's worth a try, call her. I'll apologize, but even if she forgives me, the weight of this sin will remain on my heart," Khadijah lamented.

"Don't worry, I'm sure everything will be fine if you talk to Memoona," Soda reassured her.

"Alright, call Memoona," Khadijah ordered Soda.

"I'll call her at 9 PM tonight when the petitioners are not around. You'll be able to talk to her peacefully," Soda informed Khadijah.

"As you think best," Khadijah said sadly. Soda left after hearing this.

Baari was eagerly waiting for the night. He was impatient to take revenge on Khadijah. He wandered restlessly around the house, sometimes looking at Hajra with a sly smile, sometimes at the clock on the wall. He wanted to act rashly but controlled himself to execute the plan he and Soda had devised.

Chapter 5: Twisted Deceit

As soon as the clock struck 9 PM, Baari quietly left his room, looking around to ensure no one was around. He peeked downstairs and, satisfied that no one was there, decided it was a good opportunity to head towards Hajra's room. Hajra's husband, Aqib, had already left for his night shift.

Baari knocked on the door, which Hajra opened. As soon as the door opened, Baari pushed Hajra inside and entered the room.

At that very moment, Soda, who had been searching for Baari, entered his room. Not finding him there, she began heading towards Hajra's room. As she reached the corridor, someone called her name.

"Soda!" Memoona called out to her as she entered the house.

Hearing Memoona's voice, Soda stopped, and Memoona joined her upstairs.

"Why did you call me?" Memoona asked as she reached Soda.

"Khadijah Baaji wants to talk to you. She's very ashamed of what happened the other day," Soda explained supportively.

As they were talking, Khadijah joined them in the corridor. Hajra's room wasn't far from there, and suddenly, horrifying and obscene screams from Hajra echoed through the corridor, reaching all three women.

Khadijah, noticing the noise, immediately opened Hajra's door with a jolt. What they saw stunned them. On the bed, Baari was on top of Hajra, both of them naked.

Seeing this, Khadijah's eyes filled with rage. She grabbed a pistol from the drawer of the same room's table and, without a second thought, shot Hajra.

Hajra collapsed on the bed, which quickly soaked with blood. Seeing this, Soda and Memoona were in shock and panic.

Baari was furious at Khadijah and immediately grabbed a knife from a fruit bucket, stabbing Khadijah in the stomach.

The knife went deep, causing blood to pour out of Khadijah's stomach. She fell to the ground, writhing in pain and crying.

Memoona and Soda, seeing Khadijah's state, began screaming and crying. But Baari's anger didn't subside; he jumped on Khadijah again and stabbed her two or three more times mercilessly. Unable to bear the pain, Khadijah died.

In a single moment, the entire house was engulfed in mourning. The two bodies of Hajra and Khadijah lay lifeless, while Memoona, Baari, and Soda were crying in distress.

Soon after, Aqib returned with the police. Soda had informed Aqib about the entire incident on the phone. The police arrested Baari for murder, and Aqib mourned his wife's death.

The next day, Aqib approached Soda.

"After such a death, I don't want to stay in this house or city anymore. I'm leaving," Aqib said, filled with sorrow.

"I'm very sorry for your wife's death. I hope you find peace and comfort in your new life. Life and death are in Allah's hands," Soda consoled him.

After thanking Soda, Aqib packed his belongings and left the house.

Once Aqib left, Soda quickly got up and dialed a number on her phone.

"Where are you? Aqib has left the house, so bring all the documents here," Soda instructed and ended the call.

Soda sat in the lounge, impatiently waiting for someone.

Soon, a car arrived, and Memoona stepped out, holding some documents.

Seeing Soda, Memoona smiled, and Soda stood up happily.

"Here are all the documents related to the property," Memoona said, handing the papers to Soda.

"In a short while, the local MNA will be here to buy the property at a hefty price," Soda informed.

"You are a mastermind; no one can outsmart you," Memoona remarked with interest.

"What can I say, Memoona? Love is a powerful force. I dreamt of spending my life with you, and I wanted to fulfill that dream. My brother couldn't persuade Khadijah Baaji for his marriage despite being straight, so who would fulfill our dreams? Allah didn't allow this relationship, so we took matters into our own hands," Soda explained and laughed.

"Where is Khadijah Baaji's mobile?" Memoona asked thoughtfully.

"It's in her room. Delete the messages you sent her and deactivate the SIM card so that we're both safe," Soda instructed.

Following Soda's advice, Memoona deleted all the messages from Khadijah's phone and deactivated her unknown number's SIM card.

Meanwhile, a man stepped out of a big car carrying a large handbag. Seeing him, Soda smiled and handed him the documents.

After thoroughly checking the documents, the man handed the large handbag to Soda and left. Soda opened the bag to find a lot of money inside. She was overjoyed.

"We've sold the property. Have you packed, Memoona?" Soda asked, showing the handbag to Memoona.

"Yes, ma'am, I've done everything as you instructed," Memoona expressed her happiness and held Soda's hand, dancing with her.